

REMARKS**Status Of Claims**

Claims 14, 33, 34, 54 and 55 are amended herein. Claim 8 was previously canceled. Claims 1-7, 9-13, 15-17, 23-32, 35-37, 39-42, 44-53, 56 and 57 are canceled herein. Thus, claims 14, 18-22, 33-34, 38, 43, 54 and 55 are all of the claims currently pending and under consideration in this application. No new matter is added by entry of this amendment.

Allowed Claims

Claims 18-22, 38, 43, 54 and 55 were allowed by the Examiner in the Office Action of May 20, 2004.

Applicants note that the preambles of previously allowed dependent claims 54 and 55 are amended herein to recite "A solvent-based coating composition" for consistency with the claims from which they respectively depend.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 14, 33 and 34 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

Claims 14, 33 and 34 contain allowable subject matter as set forth by the Examiner in the Office Action of May 20, 2004. These claims have been amended into independent form containing recitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the objections to claims 13, 33 and 34, as well as their allowance.

Priority

Applicants thank the Examiner for the efforts expended in securing a copy of the certified copy of JP-11/359391 from the International Bureau. Applicants acknowledge all priority documents are now on file.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 23, 26, 27, 29-32 and 48-51 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

Claims 23, 26, 27, 29-32 and 48-51 are canceled. Thus, the rejection is moot and Applicants respectfully request its withdrawal.

Alternative Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) or 103(a)

Claims 24 and 28 stand alternately rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) or 103(a).

Claims 24 and 28 are canceled. Thus, the rejection is moot and Applicants respectfully request its withdrawal.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-7, 9-13, 15-17, 25, 35-37, 39-42, 44-47, 52, 53, 56 and 57 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claims 1-7, 9-13, 15-17, 25, 35-37, 39-42, 44-47, 52, 53, 56 and 57 are canceled. Thus, the rejection is moot and Applicants respectfully request its withdrawal.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request that all claim objections and rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 112, 102(e) and 103(a) be withdrawn. Further, Applicants respectfully assert that all pending claims are allowable. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and the allowance of this application.

If any issues remain which the Examiner feels would be best resolved through a telephonic or personal interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned below.

AUTHORIZATION

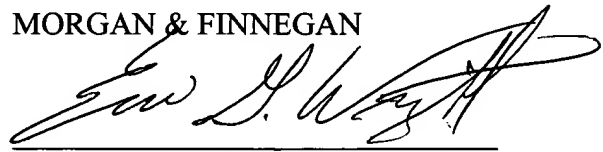
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for the timely consideration of this amendment, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1776-4067. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN & FINNEGAN

Dated: August 12, 2004

By:



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